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Page : 3

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REMARKS

Applicants have cancelled claims 32, 34 and 43 without prejudice to further prosecution. Claims 4, 44 and 45 have been amended. Applicants respectfully request consideration and allowance of claims 1-9, 11-14, 16-19, 26, 28-30, 35-42 and 44-46.

Claim 4 has been amended to remove the recitation of Helianthus. Claims 44 and 45 have been amended to provide dependency from a pending claim, following cancellation of claim 43. No new matter is added by these claim amendments.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made".

Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 14, 2001

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

Claims 32-34 and 43 have been cancelled.

Claims 4, 44 and 45 have been amended as follows:

4. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid fragment comprising a sequence of at least about 10 nucleotides from a Brassicaceae [or Helianthus] delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation in a region of said desaturase gene encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His amino acid motif, wherein said at least one mutation renders the product of said desaturase gene non-functional and wherein said sequence includes said at least one mutation.

44. (Amended) The method of claim [43] 28, wherein said identifying step comprises identifying a mutation in a His-Glu-Cys-Gly-His amino acid motif.

45. (Amended) The method of claim [43] 28, wherein said producing step h) comprises producing seeds yielding an oil having an α -linolenic acid content from about 0.5% to about 10%.